

Message Text

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17

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 INT-05 /108 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7111

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1763

DEPT PASS DOTA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VQ

SUBJ: THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: USUN 1602

1. ON APRIL 26 AUSTRALIAN MISOFF REID, COMMITTEE OF 24
REPPORTEUR, INFORMED US THAT THE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS AND
CONCLUSIONS ON THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS (REFTEL) HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT
AMENDED, PARTITALLY IN RESPONSE TO OUR COMMENTS. REID SAID
THAT SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 3 HAD BEEN CHANGED TO READ AS
FOLLOWS: "THE COMMITTEE NOTES FURTHER THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE
TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE WHOSE VIEWS WERE SHARED BY TWO OTHER
LEGISLATIVE LEADERS EXPRESSED SUPPORT THE THE HOUSE-PASSED
BILL (TO CALL A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION); AND THAT THE
GOVERNOR AND THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE LEGISLATURE
EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE BILL WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS
ON THE NEED TO ALLOW THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION TO
DRAFT A NEW FEDERAL RELATIONS ACT." THE PHRASE WHICH FOLLOWS
IN THE ORIGINAL DRAFT, REFLECTING THE COMMITTEE'S VIEWS
ON THE LACK OF SIGNIFICANT CONSTITUTIONAL PROGRESS TOWARDS
FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 1514, REMAIND UNCHANGED.

2. REID SAID THAT HE WOULD BE VERY HARD-PRESSED TO GET
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ANY BETTER FORMULATION OF THE SECTION. OTHER CHANGES, HE

SAID, WERE NOT SUBSTANTIVE IN NATURE.

3. ON A POSSIBLE APPEARANCE BY GOVERNOR KING, REID SAID THAT ANY TUESDAY OR FRIDAY BEFORE THE END OF MAY WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

4. COMMENT: WHILE THE SUB-COMMITTEE HAS NO FURTHER SCHEDULED MEETINGS ON THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS UNTIL THE DRAFT REPORT IS READY, IT WOULD BE TO OUR ADVANTAGE TO HAVE GOVERNOR KING, OR SOME OTHER SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS ADMINISTRATION, APPEAR BEFORE THE SUB-COMMITTEE PRIOR TO ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT REPORT.
BENNETT

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